

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. A responsible and civi-minded broadcasting company could certainly recommend airing any particular program at a time chosen by the affiliate but would be far more thoughtful about the propaganda aspects of insisting Stolen Honor be aired now. If Adolf Hitler had had access to television we might all be uttering "Heil Hitlers" instead of the Pledge of Allegiance. There is a line where documentary ends and fascist filmmaking begins and I think the line circles around this so called true story.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve close regulatory review of licensees. Please consider how allowing this film air time cheapens the free and fair presidential election process to which we are all committed.

Thank you.

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